



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill
Middle District of Florida

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COMPUTER LAPTOP THIEF PLEADS GUILTY TO NATIONWIDE CRIME SPREE

TAMPA, FL - United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill today announced that Eric Brandon Almy, a 34-year-old resident of Miami, pleaded guilty to one count of interstate transportation of stolen property. The maximum penalty Almy faces is ten years' imprisonment, a \$304,000 fine, and three years of supervised release.

According to the plea agreement, Almy stole laptops from California to Florida and many points in between, often walking into businesses (often corporate headquarters) and taking their laptops to then sell on eBay. He collected more than \$154,000. On March 28, 2007, Almy stole eleven laptops from Outback Steakhouse's corporate office in Tampa, which he then resold around the United States and around the world. Other headquarters and businesses targeted by Almy included Federal Express (FedEx) in Miami, Burger King's corporate headquarters in Miami, Health Management in Naples, World Fuel Services in Doral, Florida, Lennar Corporation in Florida, Callaway Golf in Carlsbad, California, and Taylor Made Golf in Carlsbad, California.

The case was investigated by United States Secret Service, the Tampa Police Department, the Miami-Dade Police Department, the Chandler Police Department (Arizona), and the Phoenix Police Department (Arizona). The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas N. Palermo.